
XI. *On an undescribed Species of the Genus Phasianus.* By
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Read December 2, 1828.

THE return of His Excellency the Right Honourable Earl Amherst from India, has made us acquainted with one of the most splendid examples of the genus *Phasianus* that has been submitted to the notice of ornithologists for many years past.

Two males of this new and beautiful species came originally from the mountains of Cochin China, and were presented by the King of Ava to Sir Archibald Campbell, who gave them to the Countess Amherst. Her ladyship retained them in her possession about two years, and ultimately succeeded in bringing them both to England alive, but they only survived the voyage a few weeks.

I propose the name of *Phasianus Amherstiae* (tab. 15.) for this valuable addition to our catalogue, as a tribute due to the distinguished lady to whom ornithologists are indebted for the knowledge of this new species ; and I have great pleasure in publicly recording my thanks to her ladyship for the kindness and condescension with which my request to be allowed to make this bird known to the world through the medium of the Linnean Society, was immediately granted.

The lovers of science will be further gratified by the knowledge, that her ladyship's zeal in this single branch of natural history, enabled her to select and bring over nearly 500 species,

many of which, I have reason to believe, are as yet unknown to European naturalists.

The dimensions of various parts of this Pheasant are as follows :

	Inches.
Length from point of the beak to the gape . . .	$1\frac{1}{2}$
——— from the beak to the rump	13
Longest tail-feather	38
Point of the beak to the end of the tail . . .	51
Height of the bird when standing	$8\frac{3}{4}$
Length of the tarsus	$3\frac{1}{4}$
Length of middle toe and nail	$2\frac{1}{2}$
Length of the back toe	$0\frac{3}{4}$
Length of the other toes, each	$1\frac{3}{4}$
Spurs small and short.	

The general character of this bird and the arrangement of its plumage is similar to that of our well-known Golden Pheasant.

The irides are white, and the naked part surrounding the eyes of a light verditer blue.

The feathers on the top of the head are green; the crest-feathers crimson, and $2\frac{1}{4}$ inches in length; the pendant tippet is of a beautiful white, each feather tipped with a dark-green circular band, with a straight band of the same colour across each feather about $\frac{3}{8}$ ths of an inch above the end; the whole depth of this tippet is $5\frac{1}{4}$ inches, the longest feathers $4\frac{1}{4}$ inches; the neck, back, shoulders, chest and wing-coverts, are of a beautiful metallic green, each feather ending in a broad zone of velvet black; the wing primaries dusky, with lighter-coloured shafts, and white outer edges; the greater wing-coverts and secondaries bluish-black; the breast and belly white; thighs and

